

A NEW SPECIES OF *SEYMERIA* (SCROPHULARIACEAE)
FROM OAXACA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Seymeria mazatecana B. L. Turner, **sp. nov.**, is described from northeastern Oaxaca, Mexico. It is closely related to *S. decurva* but is readily distinguished from that taxon by vestiture and shape of its mature capsules. A photograph of the holotype is provided.

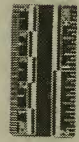
KEY WORDS: Scrophulariaceae, *Seymeria*, Mexico, Oaxaca.

Routine identification of Mexican plants has revealed the following novelty:

Seymeria mazatecana B. L. Turner, **sp. nov.** Fig. 1

Similis *Seymeriae decurvae* Benth. ex DC., sed plantae herbae compactae, caules dense villosi, et capsulae late ovoideae (vice capsularum ellipsoidearum) sunt.

Compact perennial herbs 15-30 cm high, drying black. Stems densely villous with multicellular spreading or reflexed hairs 0.5-1.0 mm long. Leaves pinnately lobed, those at mid-stem mostly 6-12 mm long, 5-8 mm wide, pubescent with both short hispidulous hairs and capitate-glandular hairs, interspersed among these a smattering of longer crinkly hairs such as occur on the stems. Inflorescence a terminal leafy raceme up to 12 cm long bearing 10-20 flowers. Pedicels 8-11 mm long. Calices 6-7 mm long having 5-8 irregular lobes 2-4 mm long. Corollas yellow, arcuate-urceolate, the tube glabrous without, pubescent within, ca. 4 mm long, 3 mm wide, the throats ca. 8 mm long, 6 mm wide, capitate-glandular, their lobes broadly cordate,



Seymeria mazatecana Hutcher
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E. R. Snodgrass B. G. Schubert

FLORA DE LA SIERRA MAZATECA
OAXACA MEXICO

SCROPHULARIACEAE

MINISTERIO SAJON DOMINGO ECOSTI
Sede de las Oficinas de la Oficina de Ecología al Centro Platan

N 18° 6' 10" W 98° 58' 20" AM 2680 metros

Diseño de planta en el Herbario

Herbario, 25 cm. de altura

en el *Diaploca* (1851) K. N. Hutcher, M. Schubert, E. R. Snodgrass, J. L. Hitchcock

6 de Julio del 2001

Presentado por el Dr. E. R. Snodgrass y el Dr. M. Schubert
a la Comisión de Nomenclatura Botánica
del Instituto de Botánica de la UNAM
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Presentado por el Dr. E. R. Snodgrass y el Dr. M. Schubert

Fig.1. *Seymeria mazatecana*, holotype.

ca. 4 mm long, 4-5 mm wide, having ciliate margins. Stamens 4; anthers 4-5 mm long; filaments 2.0-2.5 mm long, densely pilose to the apex or nearly so. Capsules broadly ovoid, ca. 8 mm high, 6 mm across, capitate-glandular, the style persistent, 6-8 mm long. Seeds (somewhat immature) ca. 15 per locule, ca. 2 mm long, ca. 1.5 mm wide, their margins with narrow undulate wings.

TYPE: MEXICO. OAXACA: Mpio. San Jeronimo Tecoatl, "Vereda (antiguo camino real) del Plan de Guadalupe al Cerro Pelon" (18 08 10 N x 96 58 20 W) ca. 2640 m, 6 Jul 2001, *Xochitl Munn-Estrada* et al. 1351 (HOLOTYPE: MEXU; ISOTYPE: TEX).

This species clearly belongs to the *Virgatae* group of *Seymeria* as treated by Pennell (1925) where it will key to the widespread *S. decurva*. It will also key to the latter in my two treatments of *Seymeria* for Mexico (Turner, 1982; 1995). The present novelty differs from *S. decurva* in being a smaller, more compact plant having a villous vestiture on its stems and broadly ovoid capsules (as opposed to ovate-ellipsoid capsules as consistently found in *S. decurva*).

The only specimen of *S. decurva* previously collected in the state of Oaxaca has been that of *Purpus* 3264 (vicinity of "Cerro Verde," this housed at UC). While I examined the latter in my initial study of the group (Turner 1982), I can not recall if it was in fruit or not; at least I did not record the capsule as broadly ovoid, nor the stems as being villous, characters emphasized here. Nevertheless, it is possible that the specimen concerned belongs to *S. mazatecana*, memories being fallible.

The species is named for the sierra where it was first collected. I intended to name the taxon for its principal collector, but when told of my intentions she humbly replied, "Please no, I deplore such honors, besides it would be more meaningfully named for the sierra in which it was collected," or words to that effect. But left to myself I would have preferred this attractive herb bear the name of its collector, Xochitl Munn-Estrada. She is currently enrolled in a graduate program in

botany at The University of Texas, Austin working on a floristic study of the mountains concerned.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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LITERATURE CITED

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- 1995. A new species of *Seymeria* (Scrophulariaceae) from Mexico. *Phytologia* 78: 28-35.